

We claim:-

1. The use of a polymer containing vinylamine units and having a
5 K value (determined in 5% strength aqueous sodium chloride
solution at 25°C, a pH of 7 and a polymer concentration of
0.5% by weight) of from 30 to 150 as a promoter for the
engine sizing of paper with alkyldiketenes.
- 10 2. The use as claimed in claim 1, wherein the K value of the
polymer containing vinylamine units is from 60 to 90.
3. The use as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein a hydrolyzed
15 poly-N-vinylformamide having a degree of hydrolysis of from 1
to 100% is used as the polymer containing vinylamine units.
4. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the
hydrolyzed poly-N-vinylformamide having a degree of
hydrolysis of from 70 to 100% is used as the polymer
20 containing vinylamine units.
5. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4, wherein
polyvinylamine is used as the promoter.
- 25 6. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, wherein the
polymer containing vinylamine units is used in an amount of
from 0.0001 to 2.0% by weight, based on dry paper stock.

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